THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) Yes madam.

(b) and (c) Following the recent nuclear tests at Pokhran on May 11 and 13, 1998, the Government are in the process of reviewing the nuclear policy of the country. Government have accorded high priority for work towards the next phase of AGNI programme.

MoUs signed with Peru

204. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a)the Memorandum of Understaning (MoU) India signed with Peru during the recent visit of the President; and

(b)the advantages likely to accrue in trade between India and Peru after the recent agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) During the visit of the President to Peru from 29th April to 3rd May, 1998, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the counterpart Peruvian agency National Commission for Research and Development of Aerospace (CONIDA) for Cooperation in space Technology and Work Plan on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture were signed.

(b) The documents signed with Peru will open new areas of cooperation and increase trade and economic exchanges between the two countries. Peruvian authorities had approached India for receiving on commercial basis, remote sensing, data, satellite communication facilities, satellite meterorology application and training of their personnel in India. The Work Plan in Agriculture will open up avenues for exchange of germplasm on food crops and sugarcane breeding, watershed management, pest management, potato cultivation and dairy development. Peru has show interest in importing cattle from India and to cooperate in dairy development on the pattern of the National Dairy Development Board. Under the programme there would also be an exchange of scientists and technologists in these areas.

बांग्लादेश द्वारा घिरे द्वीपों में रहने वाले भारतीय नागरिकों के लिए परिवहन संबंधी सुविधाएं

205. **श्री बरजिन्दर सिंह** :

श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया:

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि लगभत 126 भारतीय द्वीप बांग्लादेश के घिरे हुए हैं और वहां रहने वाले भारतीय नागरिक परिवहन की उचित सुविधाएं न होने के कारणं नारकीय परिस्थिति में रह रहे हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में वास्तविक स्थिति क्या हैं; और

(ग) क्या सरकार को हाल ही में कोई अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुआ है तथा इन मांगों के संबंध में अब तक सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्रवाई की गई है?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मती वसुन्धरा राजे) : (क) से (ग) बांग्लादेश में 111 भारतीय एन्कलेव तथा भारत में बांग्लादेश के 51 एन्कलेव हैं जिनके बारे में दोनों देशों के सर्वेक्षण प्राधिकारी रिकार्डों का सामजस्य कर रहे हैं। भारत का बांगलादेश स्थित भारतीय एन्कलेवों पर कोई प्रशासनिक नियंत्रण अथवा पहुंच नही है। इन एन्कलेवों के आदान-प्रदान का सीधा संबंध भारत और बांग्लादेश के बीच सीमा के सीमांकन से हैं तथा यह आदान-प्रदान सीमा के सीमांकन के पश्चात अनिवार्य रुप से किया जाएगा। सरकार को भारतीय एन्कलेवों में रह रहे भारतीय राष्ट्रिकों की दशा के बारे में रिपोर्ट प्राप्त हुई है। सरकार इन मसलों की गम्भीरता से अवगत है तथा इनका यथाशीघ्र हल निकालने के प्रति उत्सुक है। सरकार बांग्लादेश के साथ सीमा संबंधी सभी मसलों के शीघ्र समाधान के लिए पूरी तरह वचनबद्ध है।

Discussion with Bangladesh to stop illegal trafficking of women and children

206. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bangladesh has sought assistance from India to stop illegal trafficking of women and children;

(b)if so, whether both the countries have discussed the issue and any final strategy formulated to face the situation; and

(c)if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) to (c) The problem of illegal trafficking of women and children has been discussed between the Governments of India and Bangladesh. Both countries have agreed to cooperate to curb the trafficking in women and children and have underlined the need to take appropriate measures by involving the civil administration and the local police. The matter was also discussed with Bangladesh and other SAARC member countries at the IX SAARC Summit at Male when it was decided to examine the feasibility of establishing a Regional Convention on Combating the Crime of Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution.

Expenditure incurred on lobbying by Indian Embassies

207. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a)whether Indinn Embassy in USA spent $442,000 on lobbying in US, from July—December, 1996, as reported in the Indian Express of 25th April, 1998;

(b)if so, the percentage of this expenditure in relation to total expenditure of US Embassy during this period;

(c)whether incurring this huge expenditure on lobbying gives commensurate results in political and economic terms and whether any study has been made of the relative advantages of this activity; and

(d)whether the total expenditure spent on this account in all the Indian Missions abroad during 1996-97 and its percentage vis-a-vis our total expenditure on Indian Missions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) Embassy of India, Washington has incurred an expenditure of US $ 316,250 over seven months (15.05.1996 to 14.12.96) for engaging services of a lobbying firm.

In relation to the total budget of Embassy of India, Washington, this expenditure is 10.51%.

Yes, Sir. Diplomatic Missions based in Washington regularly utilise services of lobbying firms which is an accepted form of conducting business in the United States. The requirement of lobbying support for Embassy of India, Washington was established after a careful review of means available to advance many areas of our interests. The lobbying firms work closely with the Embassy and supplement the efforts of its officers.

The Embassy in Washington is the only India Mission which uses the services of a lobbying firm.

जम्मू और कश्मीर में उच्च स्तरीय समिति भेजा जाना

208. **श्री बरजिन्दर सिहं** :

श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने अभी हाल ही में जम्मू कश्मीर में एक उच्च स्तरीय समिति भेजी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसी उच्च स्तरीय समिति भेजे जाने की क्या आवश्यकता थी;

(ग) क्या सरकार को उच्च समिति का कोई प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त हुआ है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो प्रतिवेदन में क्या-क्या सिफारिशें है और सरकार द्वारा उन पर अब तक की गई कार्यवाही का ब्यौरा क्या है?

गृह मंत्री (**श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी**) : (क) से (घ) जम्मू और कश्मीर मे उग्रवाद का मुकाबला करने के लिए एक विशिष्ट कार्य योजना तैयार करने के लिए हाल ही में एक विशेष (उच्च स्तरीय) ग्रुप का गठन किया गया है। अपनी संस्तुत कार्य योजना को अन्तिम